2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

soon showed that they could be educated, that they were capable of doing more than just manual labour and that with understanding and encouragement there was very little that was beyond their capabilities. They began to resent the presence in their midst of an army of Indian clerks and artisans doing work which, not always with justification at that time, they considered they were capable of doing and which should be theirs by right. Unfortunately, this resentment was not confined to the Indian workers, but was directed as well against their European employers which did not make for happy racial or labour relations in the future.

The general condition of Arab labour in the Colony when I first came to know Aden in the nineteen-thirties can only be described as disgraceful. There were no superannuation benefits, and as wages left no margin between income and expenditure, nothing could be saved against old age and sickness. There were no holidays with pay, and most workers had to find their own living accommodation, and the vast majority received no medical treatment or benefit through their employers. Labour relations, as we now understand that term, did not exist. There was no form of consultation between master and man and the authority of the master was absolute.

Coal and cargo coolies were provided with accommodation; they were housed in long sheds, owned by the coaling and stevedoring companies, in grossly overcrowded conditions without any washing or sanitary arrangements, the nearby beach just across the main road served as a combined bath and lavatory. The owners never had the smallest idea who lived in these dormitories and what went on there after dark, which was probably just as well for their peace of mind in this town where women were closely guarded and youth was uncontrolled.

By the end of the World War no very great improvement in conditions was noticeable and the housing shortage, already acute, was rendered more so by a Town Planning Scheme which virtually paralysed all building operations for two years, and achieved little else except an impracticable scheme which was brought into force in a modified form and then,

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

mercifully, abandoned. The post-war increase in Aden's trade
464 brought more and more skilled and unskilled workers into the Colony, until the unsatisfactory overcrowding, at one time confined to the poorer elements of the population, had spread to white collared workers and highly skilled labour. Key money was illegal but no heed was paid to the law and very few houses changed tenants without it being given and taken in some form or other.

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466 When I came to the Port Trust I set myself to improving the standard of living of the employees and modernising their terms of employment. Government also was striving to improve labour conditions, and in the nineteen-forties a minimum wage ordinance for unskilled daily paid workers passed the Legislative Council and became law. The problems of overtime rates, juvenile employment and maximum hours of work and
[362] many kindred subjects were studied and ordinances were drafted to provide very necessary legislation. At the same time a Housing Committee was set up under the Director of Public Works to tackle the housing shortage problem. Meanwhile we in the Port Trust decasualised as much of our labour as we
[657] could and Government followed suit with theirs, an example to business houses which they were in no hurry to follow. I introduced a families' medical scheme with a lady doctor in charge for Port Trust employees, which was immediately successful and which I have no doubt Government would have
[465] liked to have seen become Colony-wide; but it was not to be, there were too many difficulties. Some of the more enterprising commercial houses introduced superannuation schemes and medical benefit for their employees, and by 1954 annual leave on full pay had become the rule rather than the exception. It is extraordinary how quickly a lead is followed, and in a few short years after the war progress was made which in many countries has taken a life-time. The speed with which these concessions were granted upset the equilibrium of some workers who, anxious to make hay while the sun shone, began to demand more and more, well beyond their just entitlement, but on the whole labour behaved surprisingly well and there was only one serious industrial disagreement during this

2: Hickinbotham C-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

with freight rates and stevedoring charges, the employers were disorganised and were, for the most part, in active competition with each other. They were very conscious of the considerable improvements in living and working conditions which had been made by them and they felt that they were entitled to expect, if not the gratitude of their workmen, at least a period of industrial calm free from further demands. They were alarmed at the increase in the number of the Trades Unions, which meant only one thing to them and that was more and more and bigger and bigger demands by labour until commercial life became impossible. It seemed quite clear to the majority of the employers that the Unions would have to be fought and brought to their senses or broken, and that this must be done before they became too strong.

Although the continued anti-British broadcasts from Cairo had undoubtedly had their effect on the general atmosphere in the Colony, which the activities of the nationalist National United Front Party had done nothing to improve, labour as a whole was behaving reasonably well. There were, of course, some differences of opinion between individuals and Managements, but the two main labour problems were being dealt with. The first of these problems, which was not in any way extraordinary and concerned shift rates for stevedores, was under discussion between employers and the Labour Department of Government, and a satisfactory settlement was in sight. The second problem was out of the ordinary and was a direct result of the improved housing conditions which many workmen now enjoyed. Put simply the trouble was that the provision of better and modern housing had increased the cost of living of the occupants to a point where, on their wage scales, they could not make both ends meet and were distinctly worse off financially than they had been before the new houses and flats were available. The reason for this curious state of affairs was not increased rent, because although there had been an increase it had been cushioned by subsidisation by Government, the Refinery, the Port Trust and the commercial houses which provided housing for their employees. Previously many of the workmen concerned had been living three or four families

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

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362 together in one room, or verandah, or in a strip-wood and
511 corrugated iron hut on the hillside. They had no washing facilities and used public latrines, and when the kerosene oil in the lamp was exhausted they went to sleep. The new accommodation had running water laid on, a bathroom and water-borne sanitation and electric light. This was as it should be, but this was where the trouble arose because water and electricity in Aden had both to be paid for, and investigation showed that the provision of these amenities increased the workman's monthly expenditure by fifteen per cent. There was also some social rivalry among the families and trying to live up to the Joneses never does reduce expenditure.

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871 Yet another cause of increased expenditure, which was universal and did not apply specifically to the dwellers in the new houses and flats, was that more children were going to school.

In 1921 there were 339 boys in Government schools, by 1948 this had increased to 4,000 boys and girls, and by 1956 no less than 10,000 children were attending Government schools and many more were going to other educational establishments. Primary and Intermediate education were free and even at Aden College and the Technical Institute the boys of poor parents were able to continue their education with Government scholarships, so the trouble was not with school fees. The parents' financial burden was added to because the boys and the girls had to be decently dressed in clean clothes to go to school, instead of wearing any old thing to hang about the town in or run errands.

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• (366) The Aden Government and the Refinery Management were alive to the difficulties of their employees and we and they were taking steps to solve the problem by a revision of some of the wage scales to relieve the financial pressure on the less well paid men. If our plans could have been completed before an unfortunate dispute between a Management and Trades Union officials lighted the fuse to set off a chain of strikes, which were exploited by the National United Front for their own ends, it is probable that the trouble when it came, and come it probably would have done in the atmosphere then prevailing in the Colony, would have been quite limited

Brit. Mus., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) [940] 16042 Aden 1941

VIII.—LABOUR

Agricultural Labour

341 There being no agriculture in the Colony, the question of agricultural labour does not arise.

Industrial Labour

434 Workers for heavy manual labour are obtained from the Protectorate and the Yemen. This form of labour is principally confined to the shipping companies and the salt works. The demand for cargo and coal coolies varies, and the local companies arrange through their agents to recruit labour as and when required. The salt companies employ a permanent staff of coolies who are recruited by local agents from the Protectorate and the Yemen. These agents arrange to replace casualties and recruit extra labour when necessary.

436 The interests of the workmen are safeguarded by the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, which are in force in the Colony.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING

443 The inhabitants of Aden are principally engaged in trading, shop-keeping and domestic employment. The large numbers of coolies employed by the salt-works, shipping concerns and contractors are drawn from the Aden Protectorate or the Yemen. The small harbour craft are manned by Somalis, who take kindly to this form of semi-sedentary employment.

441 More than half of the personal servant class comes from the Aden Protectorate and the Yemen. Clerical labour in public offices and large commercial firms is largely Indian, although as education improves more local Arabs are finding employment in Government offices and with European firms. Local Arab firms employ Arab clerical labour almost exclusively.

445 Masons and building operatives are drawn principally from the Yemen. The following rates of wages are paid:

Coolies from 8 to 12 annas a day (8 hours).
Masons from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).
Carpenters from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).
Clerks from Rs. 35 to Rs. 250 a month (according to grade).
Personal servant Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 a month.
Motor drivers Rs. 40 to Rs. 100 a month.

442 435 465 The daily staple food of a coolie is 1 lb. flour, 2 ounces of ghee, and also fish or meat to the cost of about 2 annas. The total value of the food consumed daily is about 6 annas.

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4 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1938 MMI Aden MMI

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

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Carpenters from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).
Clerks from Rs.35 to Rs.250 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants Rs.15 to Rs.50 a month.
Motor-drivers Rs.40 to Rs.100 a month.

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262 ghee, and also fish or meat to the cost of about 2 annas. The total value of the food consumed daily is about 6 annas.

511 The cost of living in the case of others varies with the emoluments of the individual concerned. European standard would average Rs.5 a day exclusive of servants' wages, cost of entertaining and club expenses.

X.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

Organisation and Administration.

871 While Aden was attached to India, the administration of education followed, with some local modifications, the system obtaining in the Bombay Presidency, and no radical changes in internal organization have been effected since the constitution of Aden as a Colony.

The administration is carried out, under the Governor, by an Education Officer, assisted by a clerical staff. The post of Education Officer was held until November, 1937, by an Indian officer seconded from the Indian Education Service. It is now held by a British officer of the Colonial Education Service. From March, 1933, to March, 1937, there was also an Assistant Education Officer whose main duty was to improve the teaching in

G. Brit., Colonial Office C-8 (1947) 1948 MMI Aden 8/41

estimate 5,000 men are employed in the port, 1,000 boys and 200 women in the entrepot industries, 500 men in salt manufacture and 100–200 in each of the other industries mentioned. There are, of course, numerous minor industries—garages, tailors, bakeries, production of electric light and water (Government owned), cinemas and a host of trades carried on by persons who range from substantial importers of grain to sellers of water by the glass in the streets. The number of these traders is greatly in excess of the real needs of the town, owing partly to the shifting nature of the population and to the chronic under employment and poverty.

Wages of unskilled labour in Aden are always low, partly on account of the very low standard of efficiency which is the result of malnutrition, lack of education and an enervating climate, and partly to the pressure of the surplus labour from the Yemen, so close at hand.

For skilled workers the outlook is far better. There is such a dearth of trained or capable men that they command good wages.

The wages of unskilled labour were about Rs. 1 a day (1*s.* 6*d.*), and it is possible to support a family on this sum. Immigrant labourers from the Yemen, who come to Aden as single men, even manage to save up enough to return after a year or so with clothes for their women-folk and money to pay off debts or buy land. Of skilled trades, carpenters earn about Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 a day (4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*), blacksmiths much the same, welders about Rs. 100 (£7 10*s.*) a month or more. Hours vary from 48 to 60 per week in the various industries.

The following are the prices of a few of the more necessary commodities:

Food

Butter, Rs. 2.4.0 per lb.
Cheese, Rs. 1.1.0 per 12-oz. tin.
Fish, about 1 anna for a fish of the herring type and size, or less for coarser fish.
Flour, 5 as. per lb.
Ghee, Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.8.0 per lb.
Meat, 10 as. to 12 as. per lb.
Potatoes, 4 as. per lb.
Rice, 7 as. per lb.
Soap (Key Fole), 6 as. per 250-gram cake.
Sugar, brown, 5 as. per lb.
white, 6 as. per lb.
Tea, Rs. 1.14.0 per lb.

Clothing

Sheeting, coloured, Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 per yard.
Shirt, Rs. 5.
Shirting, white, Rs. 1.8.0 to Rs. 1.12.0 per yard.
Tropical suit, Rs. 60 and upwards.

R.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 M2G Aden 44,48

of imported thread into cloth or dyeing and printing of imported cloth for the local market, the crushing of sesame seeds for cooking oil, the manufacture of cigarettes and the fashioning (without the potter's wheel) of crude earthenware jars for storing water. At a rough estimate 5,000 men are employed in the port, 1,000 men and 200 women in the entrepôt industries, 500 men in salt manufacture and 100–200 in each of the other industries mentioned. There are, of course, numerous minor industries —garages, tailors, bakeries, production of electric light and water (Government owned), cinemas and a host of trades carried on by persons who range from substantial importers of grain to sellers of water by the glass in the streets. The number of these traders is greatly in excess of the real needs of the town, owing partly to the shifting nature of the population and to the chronic under-employment and poverty.

Wages of unskilled labour in Aden are low, partly on account of the very low standard of efficiency which is the result of malnutrition, lack of education and an enervating climate, and partly to the pressure of the surplus labour from the Yemen, so close at hand.

During the year there was constant pressure to increase rates of wages, not because of any increase in the cost of living (which fell slightly as Japanese cloth at cheaper prices became available), but because of greater organization among the employees of the three big companies who service the port, and very largely because Government employees received substantial payments in anticipation of arrears of salary from 1st January, 1948, following the visit of a Commission of Enquiry. These interim awards to Government staff were immediately followed by demands for similar bonus payments from commercial employees, backed up by strikes or the threat of strikes, and these demands were generally conceded.

A strike of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's labour in November affected the port; a few ships were oiled direct from tankers or by the services of office staff, but some shipping had to be diverted to other ports. The coal and other port labour joined the strike. The strikers refused Government arbitration, and after three weeks the employers conceded the majority of the men's demands.

A Labour Advisory Board, on which the Government, Port Trust and other substantial employers of labour are represented, has fixed the minimum rate for unskilled labour at Rs. 1.6.0 (2s. 2d.) a day, and this rate is now paid by the big firms, but casual labourers who work for Arab or other small employers, do not achieve anything like this sum, even when in regular employment, and the monthly earnings of most men are greatly reduced by irregular employment.

Skilled tradesmen are insufficient for the requirements of Aden and so can command relatively good pay—up to Rs. 100 a month (£7 10s.) or more. There is also competition for skilled tradesmen from the oil-fields of the Persian Gulf, where high wages are being offered.

Commodity prices have not varied much during the year and the following are approximate figures for December, 1948 (price control is effective for such staple articles of diet as flour, rice and sugar):

G.Gt. 302. Colonial Office C-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden [6,8]

Food

Butter, Rs. 2.4.0 per lb.
Cheese, Rs. 1.1.0 per 12-oz. tin.
Fish, about 1 anna for a fish of the herring type and size, or less for coarser fish.
Flour, 5 as. per lb.
Ghee, Rs. 1 to Rs. 2.8.0 per lb.
Meat, 10 as. to 12 as. per lb.
Potatoes, 4 as. per lb.
Rice, 7 as. per lb.
Soap (Key Pale), 6 as. per 150-gram cake.
Sugar, brown, 5 as. per lb.
white, 6 as. per lb.
Tea, Rs. 1.14.0 per lb.

Clothing

Shirting, coloured, Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 per yard.
Shirt, Rs. 5.
Shirting, white, Rs. 1.8.0 to Rs. 1.12.0 per yard.
Tropical suit, Rs. 60 and upwards.

Utilities and Petrol

Electric light, 5 as. per unit.
Water, 4 as. per 100 gallons.
Petrol, Rs. 1.8.0 per gallon.

Rents are high and accommodation scarce.

There is no separate Labour Department and efforts to secure a Welfare and Labour Officer during the year were not successful. The District Commissioner acts as Labour Officer and investigates such complaints as are brought to his notice.

No labour legislation was passed during the year. The following are the more important Ordinances in force:

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance (*No.* 10 *of* 1938)

This prohibits the employment of children under 15 years of age, and the employment of women or young persons between 15 and 18 years of age on nightwork or in specified occupations.

Factories Ordinance (*No.* 21 *of* 1938)

This provides for the health and safety of persons working in factories, their hours, holidays and overtime pay, and provides for the appointment of factory inspectors.

Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (*No.* 40 *of* 1939)

This provides for the free medical treatment of workmen and their compensation in the event of injury causing loss of employment or death.

Minimum Wage and Wages Regulation Ordinance (*No.* 17 *of* 1940)

This provides for fixing the minimum wages to be paid in any occupation.

Occupation or Trade	Men — Rates per day	Boys	Number employed per week	Hours per week	Remarks
Public Works Department					
1. Labourers (Coolies).	Rs. 1-4-0	As. 12	1,500	54	1. No women employed by the P.W.D.
2. Carpenters.	Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3 according to ability.	—	48	54	2. All boys receive annual
3. Masons.	Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3 according to ability.	—	48	54	3. All [illegible] and [illegible]
4. Electricians.	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
5. Plumbers.	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
6. Blacksmiths and Fitters.	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
7. Wiremen, Cleaners and Motor-drivers.	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
8. Painters.	[illegible]	—	32	54	—
9. Silk Manufacturers Silk Weavers.	Rs. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0.	As. 12 to As. 14.	80	54	9. Time and piece work.
10. Fuel Firemen.	Rs. 30 to Rs. 33 per month.	—	60	—	—
11. Unskilled labour.	Rs. 1-4-0.	—	—	—	—
12. Other labour.	Rs. 30 to Rs. 450 per month.	As. 8 *	82	48	* Approximate.
13. Persons other than Port Trust employees.	Rs. 1-4-0.	—	200	54	—
14. Coal and Cargo Coolies.	As. 11 to Rs. 1-4-0.	—	Fluctuating	—	—
Domestic Servants					
15. Cooks.	From Rs. 25 to Rs. 40 per month.				
16. House boys.	Rs. 15 to Rs. 25 per month.				
17. Chokras (Assistants).	Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per month.				

Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-S (1949-50) 1951 3041 Aden Part I

374 will soon be available as well as the full-time course for younger students.

466 Wages remained stable throughout 1950, but towards the end of the year some increases were reported by employers in the building trade. The legal minimum wages remain as fixed by Regulation in April, 1949. There are probably some employers who still pay less than the required minimum to unskilled labourers, usually immigrants from the Yemen. [435] A comparative table of prices of a few commodities (*see* p. 11) indicates a fairly general rise in prices, and it is to be expected that in the near future there may be a general demand for increased wages.

466 468 Efforts have been made throughout the year to create better industrial relations by personal contact, visits and inspections of all places of work, and by some talks, posters, and leaflets. There are no trade unions in the Colony, and the workpeople have no conception of organisation or collective bargaining. Trade stoppages reported during 1950 numbered five, and about 2,000 working days were lost. The disputes were in all cases of a purely local nature involving one concern and its employees. All were ended by agreement and conciliation. In no cases was the Trade Disputes Ordinance invoked.

466 The only labour legislation introduced was an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance requiring compulsory notice of certain non-fatal accidents. This became law on 31st December, 1950, and the effect cannot yet be judged. The Labour Officer, the Principal of the Government Technical College and the District Commissioner are Factory Inspectors for the Colony. During the year, 102 inspections were made of factories registered under the requirements of the Ordinance. The main objects of these visits were to educate employers and works managers in the requirements of the Ordinance, and to suggest the use of guards for the more dangerous machinery. An attempt to organise first-aid classes for foremen and workers had to be abandoned owing to complete lack of support.

745 There are no Government schemes either contributory or otherwise for sick pay, unemployment relief, or old age pensions for the ordinary worker. Apart from the provisions made by Government and the Aden Port Trust for its employees, only four commercial concerns are known to have contributory schemes for employee gratuities. Scarcely half of the employees who could benefit from these schemes have so far become contributors. A number of the larger and old established firms provide some medical services, and at their discretion give gratuities to long service employees.

647 Towards the end of 1950 the Labour Advisory Board was freshly constituted. In the absence of any workers' organisations, special effort was made to nominate some non-employers on the Board. This Board should be a most useful body which will continuously have under examination all labour problems in the Colony.

1: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MH1 Aden /7509/

MINIMUM WAGES

A scale of minimum wages was laid down by Government Notice No. 48 of 14th April, 1949. 466

Skilled Tradesmen Rs. 3/- per day	*Semi-Skilled Tradesmen* Rs. 2/8/- per day	*Skilled Labourers* Rs. 1/12/- per day	*Unskilled Labourers* Rs. 1/8/- per day
Fitters.	Glaziers	Painters.	
Turners.	Drillers.	Rivet Holders.	
Machinists.	Launch Drivers.	Watchmen.	
Blacksmiths.	Truck Drivers.	Stokers.	
Boiler makers.	Crane Drivers.	Firemen.	
Pattern makers.	Gangers.	Greasers.	
Carpenter/ Joiners.	Motor Mechanics.	Scalers.	
Cabinet makers.	Carpenters.	Hammermen.	
Moulders.	Sailmakers.	Riveters.	
Coppersmiths.	Cobblers.	and equivalent classes.	
Wiremen.	Masons and equivalent classes.		
Electricians.			
Plumbers.			
Sign writers.			
Draughtsmen.			
Stone dressers.			
Welders.			
Cable jointers and equivalent classes.			

No maximum wages are stipulated. No minimum wages are stipulated for categories such as clerks, shop assistants, domestics, etc.

These rates have been increased in 1951.

R.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office C-3 (1951-52)1954 1952 Aden 4841

464 the casual nature of their work. There is no seasonal fluctuation of employment, though economic and agricultural conditions in the nearby territories have an affect on the size of the labour force in Aden.

467 A large proportion of the labour force consists of migrant workers.
464 These come mainly from the Western Aden Protectorate and the Yemen, with some men and a few women from Somaliland Protectorate. These immigrants provide the entire force of unskilled casual workers, of whom large numbers are employed in such processes as bunkering of coal by hand, handling cargo, working salt in the pans, etc. Mechanisation has hardly been introduced.

The building trade is also largely staffed by immigrant workers with the exception of some local born carpenters, electricians and plumbers (known locally as fitters).

464 The immigrant workers, not accompanied by their families who
467 remain in their villages, usually remain for a period of about two years
465 before returning home for a period of rest. These workers are not engaged on any form of contract, but seek their own employment on arrival, usually finding casual work at daily rates of pay. There are no special Government arrangements for their welfare and protection, but they secure the same protection by reason of the Minimum Wages and Workmen's Compensation Ordinances as the locally born.

There is no emigrant labour beyond a few Yemenis proceeding through Aden for employment in the oil fields of Saudi Arabia or as dock labourers to Madagascar. In all cases properly attested contracts are required before travel facilities are afforded by the Immigration Officer.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

465 Wages rose considerably in 1951-52 and the scales of legal minima under the Minimum Wages Ordinance were revised in April and July, 1951 and again in October, 1952. The hourly and piece-work rates of the Aden Shipping Conference were also increased in similar proportion on each of these occasions. Rations are not provided by employers, but free housing in barrack buildings is provided by the employers of coal bunkering labourers, and also for some of the workers engaged in cargo handling. Overtime is paid at the rate of time and a quarter to workers on daily rates.

RATES OF PAY IN DECEMBER, 1952

Minimum daily wages

Young persons under 18 years .	Shs. 3.00
Unskilled Labourers . .	4.00
Skilled Labourers . . .	5.00
Semi-skilled Tradesmen . .	6.50
Skilled Tradesmen . . .	8.00

The above rates are for a 48 hour week. Overtime up to 50 hours is paid at flat-time rates, beyond 50 hours at time and a quarter.

R.Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (3981-[illegible]) MAG. Aden

Average rates of pay in the Building Trade

Young persons under 18	Shs. 3.44
Unskilled Labourers	3.13
Masons	10.73
Carpenters	10.87

The hours worked by harbour and wharf labourers are irregular, depending on the movements of shipping in the Port. The usual hours, in workshops and in the larger concerns are 48 hours per week (six days), though in the building trade a 54-hour week is common. There is little night work except that necessary for the mooring and oil bunkering of ships and the handling of cargo. Coal bunkering is not done at night. Sunday is the accepted day of rest. Paid holidays are not customary in Aden.

COST OF LIVING

An attempt was made by the Department of Economic Control to compile a cost-of-living index but it was not published because it was doubtful whether it was sufficiently reliable. A new index was then produced jointly by the Chamber of Commerce and the Township Authority and the first index figure was published on 15th July, 1952 and the second on 1st October. The figure on 1st October, 1952 showed an average rise of 20.89 points above that ruling on 1st April, 1951, and an increase in cost-of-living allowances and to adjustment to daily wages were made.

A list of some price-controlled commodities at 31st December, 1952 is given in the table on page 11.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Department is still small, but work-places are as regularly visited as possible with limited staff. Particular attention is paid to the creation of better industrial relations, and to the assistance of workmen in settling their compensation claims and wage disputes. Efforts are also made to prevent the employment of children, and inspection is carried out to control the employment of women and young persons. The Labour and Welfare Officer and the Principal of the Technical College are factory inspectors, and a qualified marine steam engineer is the boiler inspector. There are no employment exchange facilities.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The work-people of the Colony have no conception of labour organisation or of collective bargaining. The only registered trade union is the Aden Harbour Pilots' Association with a membership of 11 European pilots.

The Labour Advisory Board of nominated members, employers and non-employers, met nine times during 1951–52. It has not yet proved possible to nominate any workers' representatives to the Board, owing

R.Gr. 369, Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MMI Aden 44 M1

respect of injury to third parties. This legislation is similar to that which has existed in the United Kingdom for many years. 494

The Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 8 of 1952), which made it an offence for a person to practice medicine in the Colony unless registered under the Ordinance. It has also deleted the provision under which the practice of native systems was permitted, since treatment by qualified practitioners is now available in the Colony. 759

The Ordinance also made provision for the control of the sale and publication of advertisements of cures. [678]

The Distribution of German Enemy Property Ordinance (No. 9 of 1952), which was based on the Distribution of German Enemy Property Act, 1949, of the United Kingdom, and which made local provision for the collection, realisation and distribution of property in the Colony which belonged to German owners on 3rd September, 1939. It provided that creditors in the Colony should have a first charge on such assets in Aden. 648 425

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 12 of 1952), which prohibited the carriage or conveyance of animals in such a manner as to cause them unnecessary suffering. It also enabled rules to be made to regulate the conditions under which animals should be carried by sea. 231

The Press and Registration of Books (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14 of 1952), which made it obligatory for persons publishing newspapers to give security for any damages which a court may award against them in a libel suit. It also provided for the correction of articles and other reports in local newspapers which contain factual statements which either are false or distorted. 304

The Port Ordinance (No. 15 of 1952), which amended and consolidated the law relating to the Port of Aden and matters ancillary thereto. It replaced the Indian Ports Act, 1908, and also the Indian Lighthouse Act, 1927. 505

The Port Trust (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 16 of 1952), which authorised the Trustees of the Port of Aden to raise money by way of loans or temporary borrowing in order to carry out the duties imposed upon them under the principal Ordinance. It also gave statutory recognition to the practice that all port dues, fees and charges should be credited to the Trustees.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 17 of 1952), which brought within the scope of the principal Ordinance locally engaged civilian staff of departments of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. In Aden this virtually means local civilians employed by Her Majesty's Forces. 464 465

It also increased the minimum payment of compensation, in the case of injury to a workman resulting in permanent total incapacity, from *Shs.*1,050 to *Shs.*1,500 and the maximum from *Shs.*15,000 to *Shs.*18,000 which latter amount represents 24 months' earnings of a workman whose monthly earnings do not exceed *Shs.*750.

This Ordinance has not yet been brought into force.

The Government Guards (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 18 of 1952), which provided mainly for the better enforcement of discipline in the Force 703

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The Turkish mosque in San'a, capital of the Yemen

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